D Wilkens 430 McAuley St. oakland CA 94609

Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

## Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

UST elecom, the trade association which represents the nations largest telco carriers (such as AT&T, Verizon, and others) has petitioned the FCC to dismantle key components of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, including the provision that requires them to lease their copper last-mile home connection to CLECs.

Please reject their petition.

We (consumers and small businesspeople) depend on CLECs to provide services that the big carriers do not. For example, in two cities in California I depend on Sonic DSL service delivered via AT&T copper. Sonic's service is far superior to the large carriers, and they are also building out their fiber network, which I will use. I will continue to depend on the DSL service, too. DSL is a bridge to fiber.

Reliable broadband service is an essential utility for all small business and residence consumers. Don't let the large carriers choke it off. Reject their petition.

Thanks.

D Wilkens